ANSWER

TO A PRINTED PAPER

ENTITLED

MEMORIAL

OF

COLONEL MULLER, &c. &c.

PRINTED IN THE YEAR 1784.

1608/4494.

ANSWER

TO A PRINTED PAPER

ENTITLED

MEMORIAL

OF

COLONEL MULLER, &c. &c.

A FALSE and ridiculous account of a tranſaction I had with Mr. Muller, having been publiſhed by him during my abſence from London, makes my friends think it neceſſary I ſhould refute it, by printing the moſt material parts of our correſpondence, and ſome other papers which I am ſorry, for the ſake of his family, as honourable as any in Switzerland, he lays me under the neceſſity of publiſhing. They would be unintelligible without ſome introduction.

My acquaintance with Mr. Muller commenced from my having lived a twelve month with his Brother-in-law, a gentleman of Switzerland, whoſe many favours I ſhall ever remember with the utmoſt pleaſure and gratitude, and from my having been ordered for my health to the Baths of Blumenſtein, which belonged to Mr. Muller, and are only a few miles from his houſe of Amſoldingen.

Mr. Muller was Major of Department to two Battalions of Militia, and talking over with him the means of getting men for the ſervice of England, he perſuaded me that all the men of the Battalions he had the inſpection of, would follow him whereever he went. And by letters he ſhewed me from the King of Pruſſia, I found he had perſuaded his Majeſty of the ſame thing. We had frequent converſations on the means of getting men *without the open conſent of his Canton*, the purport of which we put down on paper; in all of which he expreſſed a reſolution of not going himſelf to the Eaſt or Weſt Indies, and doubts of his men chuſing to ſerve againſt America.

Being upon my return to England, I proffered by letter, to renew the application which Mr. Muller had informed me he had made to Lord George Germain without ſucceſs, and receiving his anſwer before

before I left Switzerland * I made the application accordingly.

THE propoſals I gave in to Lord Amherſt, were for raiſing four battalions †, one of which I meant for myſelf, another for Mr. Muller.

MY letters to Mr. Muller, whilſt this negocia- was pending, are wrote in general terms, referring particulars to our meeting, that the purport of the buſineſs they were upon, might be as little underſtood as poſſible, by others than himſelf; But he *muſt* have underſtood me perfectly, as will appear by the letters, now the tranſaction is public.

WHILST I had reaſon to think that four battalions would be accepted of, I wrote to him, *Mes interets ſe trouvent mélés avec les votres.* When I thought the propoſals refuſed, and the whole at end, I wrote him word ſo, abuſing the Miniſters who had deceived me with falſe hopes ‡. When it was in

* See his letter to me dated Amſoldingen, November 5th, 1780.

† Theſe propoſals may be ſeen at the India houſe, or at the office of Lord Amherſt.

‡ This letter is yet in Mr. Muller's poſſeſſion, and I have no c p.

in part reſumed, but in a different ſhape, and for one battalion only, deſtined for the Eaſt-Indies, where Mr. Muller had informed me he would upon no account go, I wrote to him *, *cela n'a pas pris la tournure dout' je m'étois flatté mais en tout cas cela mettrat entre un ou deux Mille Louis dans votre poche*, and referred further particulars to our meeting.

ACCORDINGLY when I went to him at Amſoldingen, I ſhewed him the engagement I had at the deſire of Lord Amherſt, ſigned with the Chairman of the India Company, tranſlated it into French, and informed him, that my friends Lord Porcheſter and Mr. Medows, had given ſecurity for my performance, under the penalty of £.13000, and then propoſed his perſuading the men of the two batalions he had the charge of to follow me, which if they did, I would give him £.1500 and a company for his ſon. Theſe terms he accepted of with the greateſt appearance of gratitude, only ſaid it would be neceſſary for him to put on the uniform of the regiment, that the men might think he was to go along with them, and begged me to uſe my intereſt for obtaining him a Brevet of Colonel, *à la ſuite de l'armeà* †, that his countrymen might not laugh at him for having called himſelf Colonel inſtead of Major;

* See my letter dated April 25th, a falſe quotation from which is made in his memorial.

† See his letters at the end.

Major; This I thought it poſſible to ſucceed in, if his men came to me, as we flattered ourſelves there was no doubt of their doing.

THE account given by Mr. Muller of this engagement taken between us, is ſo compleatly rediculous; the abſurdity of his taking the ſigned articles for his commiſſion, and acting upon it without knowing its contents is ſo glaring, and the ſuppoſition of my having riſked my all, and the fortune of my friends, to the amount of £20,000, for the purpoſe of obtaining a regiment for a man I had no connection with, ſo improbable, that I ſcarce think it neceſſary to pay any attention to it. But if any doubt ſhould remain in the mind of any one, I entreat they would read the evidence given by the ſon of Mr. Muller *, before the Committee of the Houſe of Commons, and Mr. Muller's own letter deſiring the Brevet *à la Suite de Sarmèe* †, and appeal to the bill he drew upon me for £1500 ‡, though he knew that he had not fulfilled his part of the

* See the whole of this evidence.

† See Mr. Muller's letter to me, dated Sept. 17th, 1781. and P. S. of 29th Dec. 1781.

‡ The bill was drawn upon me at Meſſrs. Coutts, who, I dare ſay, will remember what I ſaid to him upon the occaſion.

the engagement; and that the India Company was ſo far from fulfilling theirs to me, that they demanded the penalty of £.1300 from my friends, grounded on the conduct of Mr. Muller, as reported to them, by the officer they had ſent to muſter my regiment *.

Mr. Muller's conduct indeed, during the raiſing of the regiment, was ſuch as to perſuade me that he had loſt bis ſenſes †. He had before I came to Switzerland, put the Government of his Canton on their guard, and ſteps were taken which prevented the men of the Militia he had the inſpection of, from coming to my rendezvous, upon finding which, he went up to the Mountains in deſpair, ſending me word his health required it; and the men I got out of Switzerland were clandeſtinely brought by perſons I employed, not at his recommendation, the reſt I obtained myſelf from the Duke of Wirtemberg.

When he recommended any officers to me, I conſulted his Majeſty's Miniſter at Berne, whether they

* See Major Toone's letter at the India Houſe, when he had made inquiries according to the inſtructions he had received.

† Any body that doubts thereof, may aſk Mr. Norton what account he received from his Majeſty's Charge d'Affairs,

they were proper or not, and accepted or refuſed them accordingly. Thoſe I accepted from him were but three, they joined me at my rendezvous, and I never heard from him of his pretending to have granted any commiſſions himſelf, till long after the levy was at an end. Then he wrote to aſk me what he was to do with them, I thought his head turned, and wrote the anſwer which he has given a part of page five of his Memorial; An extract of his reply, dated Amſoldingen, Nov. 23d, 1781, makes part of the correſpondence at the end.

The buſineſs betwen us is very ſhort and ſimple, He undertook to get the men of the militia he had the charge of, to come to my rendezvous before the 20th of Auguſt, 1781, and I to give him, if they did, £.1,500 for himſelf, and a company for his ſon. The State of Berne took ſteps to prevent Mr. Muller's being able to fulfil his part of the engagement, he therefore could have no claim upon me, but as matter of generoſity and compaſſion.

It might, perhaps, have been wiſer in me, after the proofs Mr. Muller had given me, of his imprudent and dangerous character, to have had nothing more to do with him, but prudence is not the quality I pique myſelf upon in caſes of diſtreſs, and when he run away from trial, in his

own country, I ſent him enough to ſupport himſelf and family, in at leaſt as good a ſtate as they were when my acquaintance with him commenced. Three guineas a week was paid him regularly, till he left the neighbourhood of Baſil. Even his forging the names of four gentlemen of that place, to a pretended ſale of his eſtate of Amſoldingen, did not prevent my continuing this allowance to him, which I could very ill afford; but I did not think it proper to have any further correſpondence with him after ſuch an action *.

The India Company, upon my application, having appointed his ſon a Cadet, the family ſent him over to me with many thanks, entreating I would, if poſſible, get his appointment fixed for Bengal, and leave to ſtay a twelvemonth here, for the finiſhing of the young man's education. I did ſo, and then equipt him and ſent him out by the packet to Bengal.—The expence of all which, upwards of £.300, I am far from regretting, for a finer and better diſpoſed young man I never met with †. His Majeſty has ſince been pleaſed to convert

* Reſpect and gratitude for the gentleman who through friendſhip to me, remitted this money to Mr. Muller, prevents my publiſhing his correſpondence on that head, or of the perſons who acquainted me with this ſhameful tranſaction.

† See the mother and ſon's letter to me, I thought it needleſs to publiſh thoſe of the reſt of the family, or more of theirs.

convert the half-pay, which the Commander in Chief found the officers of my regiment intitled to into a gratification of ſix years purchaſe of half-pay. From whence Mr. Muller's family would now have received, but for his own oppoſition to it, £.1280*. This ſum, though it may ſound little to Engliſh ears, for the ſupport of a gentleman's family, will make Mr. Muller's wife and children more at their eaſe than ever they were before. For upon the diſcuſſion of his affairs which took place after his flight from Berne, it turned out, that he had been a bankrupt many years before the commencement of this tranſaction, and it was the wonder of Berne how he had ſupported himſelf†.

A PROPER part of the intereſt of this ſum will, I am ſure, be allowed Mr. Muller; but I have, out of regard for the family, and at their deſire‡, taken effectual care that the the principal ſhould be kept out of his hands, and that the quantum of his income ſhould depend on his future conduct

* Enquire at the Treaſury.

† The eſtate of Amſoldingen ſold for 50,000 livres, the baths of Blumenſtein for 17,000 livres, a ſmall vineyard for 1,000 livres, making all together 68,000 livres. His debts amounted to 90,000 livres, his poſt of Major of Departement did not yield more than £.50,—all theſe facts are well known.

to his family. What determined me to do ſo was, his conduct when laſt in London.

Before his arrival, I had had advice that he had threatened to come over here, and take his ſon away from my care; but upon his coming, he was ſo far from ſhewing any reſentment to me, that when out of regard to his ſon I returned his viſit, he profeſſed to have always looked upon me as his beſt friend, and denied having ever ſaid or wrote any thing to my diſadvantage, which was the only kind of reconciliation ever paſſed between us, long before Mr. Norton honoured me with a viſit; I knew what he ſaid not to be true; but I thought it not worth while to take notice of it. And when he wanted to go back to Switzerland, and could not get a Bill of Exchange for £.110 upon that country negociated, I, according to his deſire, prevailed on the India Company to make him a preſent of forty guineas for his journey; and when his landlord arreſted him for board and lodging, not having the money myſelf to relieve him, I got a friend to join with me in a bill for £.74, in return for which, he endorſed the Bill of Exchange to me for £.110. This I encloſed in his preſence to a gentleman at Baſil, who was deſired to remit me £.76, and pay the remainder to Mr. Muller, when he called for it. This bill turned out to be forged, and was proved to be ſo,

before

before a court of judicature, in that country *; after this I thought it not ſafe to hold any correſpondence with himſelf, and refuſed to anſwer a letter which he had the aſſurance to ſend me, demanding one of the two thouſand pounds which the Company had been adjudged to pay me; though he knew that ſum went but a little way to pay the debts I had contracted on account of my regiment; upon which I cannot help obſerving, *that if the Company could have found whilſt the arbitration was depending*, a paper afterwards produced to the Houſe of Commons, whereon the whole merits of the queſtion between us in my apprehenſion reſted, I ſhould probably have obtained the greateſt part of the £.40,000 I thought my due.

THE Committee of the Houſe of Commons, and General Conway having examined very accurately the pretenſions of every one of my officers, it would be improper for me to make anſwer to any libel in that head. The General inſiſted upon my omitting every one of the real officers of my regiment, whom I could not certify to have been injured by

* See the bill ſigned J. F. E. and S. M. at the end as well as the acknowledgment ſigned Michael Parys, and letters dated June 2d, and July 10th, 1783.

by the tranſaction, and I could not certify that nor any thing elſe, of men whoſe names I never had ſo much as heard of. As to thoſe whom Mr. Muller had brought over with him, or their letters of attorney, I ſhall only ſay it is difficult to conceive that any officers would quit ſervices they were engaged in, for commiſſions granted by a private perſon not belonging to the country whoſe commiſſions he was diſpoſing of, without ſeeing his authority. No foreign gentleman would accept of any from me, till he ſaw the certificate of his Majeſty's Miniſter, that my commiſſion which I ſhewed them was ſigned by thoſe I aſſured them it was.

I had, upon firſt reading Mr. Muller's Memorial, printed another anſwer, but regard for his family and the poſſibility of his ingratitude, ariſing more from the diſorder of his underſtanding than the malignity of his heart, prevented my refuting ſuch an infamous attack in the ſtile it would otherwiſe deſerve.

PART of the proofs are annexed, if more ſhould be thought neceſſary, I have volumes of them, which any member of the Houſe of Commons may ſee, who chooſes to aſk me for them. The protection my officers and I met with from the Commons of

Great-

Great-Britain, when we had in vain ſought for it, from the Miniſters of his Majeſty, and of the Eaſt-India Company, gives every one belonging to that Houſe, a right to put any queſtion to me they chooſe, and I ſhall be happy to anſwer them.

JA. FR. ERSKINE, Col.

APPENDIX.

BRITISH MUSEUM
15 NOV 72

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

FORM *of the Engagement of* RECRUITS.

JE me ſuis engagé de ſervir comme dans le régiment qui ſe léve pour le ſervice de la Grande Brétagne, par Monſieur le Colonel Erſkine, pour le terme de cinq années & demi, après l'arrivée du régiment en Angleterre, en tel pays, et en telle façon que le Roi d'Angleterre le trouvera à-propôs.

LETTER *ſent to* OFFICERS, *ordering them to ſtop Recruiting.*

JE ne puis vous expliquer par écrit ce qu'eſt dévenu de mon affaire, mais je n'ai plus beſoin des volontaires. Venez à Stutgart dans le Wirtemberg, vous trouverés que tout eſt arrangé à votre ſatisfaction.

J'ai l'honneur d'etre, &c.

(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE.

Form of Discharge, *dated November*, 1781.

Congé.

Nous Souſſignés Commandant le corps des recrues Angloiſes de la part du *Colonel Erſkine*, certifions que le Porteur du préſent eſt de agé ans, haut pieds pouces, chevelure tein il fût enrollé comme & il en fut congédié attendu la diſſolution du dit corps.

Il a recu ſa paye du jour de ſon enrollement juſques à aujourd'ui, à la teneur du 9ieme article de la capitulation & de plus il a reçu en ſimple gratification une ſemaine de gages, *à raiſon de la paye du régiment étant en Europe*, comme reſulte de la quittance placée à tergo du préſent congé & ſouſcrite de ſa propre main.

Il part de Heckingen, ce de Novembre, à heures du pour ſe rendre à paſſant par.

(Signé) GRATAROLL, Capitaine.

Copy.

Copy *of the* Form *of* Sentence *Given againſt the* Officers, in the hand-writing of Mr. Muller.

Comme,

A l'occasion de l'enrollement *de Monſieur Erſkine* pour le ſervice de la Companie des Indes Orientales d'Angleterre, beaucoup de nos Bourgeois, & ſujets ſe ſont rendu coupables envers notre décret contre les ſervices nos avoués &c. Nous infligeons, &c.

Extract *of a Letter from his* Majesty's *Miniſter at* Bern, *to the Chancellor of the Biſhop of* Constance.

Bern, ce 18ieme Juillet, 1781.

" Je prends la liberté de vous addreſſer la pré-
" ſente, à la réquiſition de Mr. Erſkine, Gen^me.
" Ecoſſois, allié de familles les plus diſtinguées en
" Angleterre qui n'eſt particuliérement recom-
" mandé par Milord Comte de Hillſborough,
" Miniſtre, & Premier Secretaire d'Etat de ſa Ma-
" jeſté Britannique, *& qui a la Commiſſion* de lever
" un régiment dans les pays circonvoiſins de la
" Suiſſe, &c. &c. &c.

EXTRACT *from an Oſtenſible Letter of the* King's Miniſter *at* Bonne, *ſent to* Colonel Erſkine *for the purpoſe of aſſiſting him in obtaining Rendezvous's on the Borders of* Switzerland, *in conſequence of his* Majeſty's *orders, tranſmitted to that Miniſter by the* Lord Viſcount Stormont, *then Secretary of State, through* Colonel Erſkine.

Produced to the Committee of the Houſe *of* Commons, *July the* 8*th*, 1783.

A Bonne, le 19*ieme Juillet*, 1781.

J'AI appris par votre ami Monſieur le Colonel Groſſet avec le plus grand plaiſir, le ſuccés que *vous* avez eu dans *votre plan* de lever un corps de trouppes, &c. &c.. Je déſire que vous veniés bientôt à bout d'un projet dont la reuſſite fera tant de plaiſir à nôtre gracieux Maitre.

MONSIEUR de Groſet ne m'a pas dit quel endroit dans les environs de la Suiſſe *vous aviez fixé* pour le rendezvous des trouppes *que vous y aviez levé* ; au reſte je ne ſuppoſe pas que vous eprouviés des difficultés à cet égard ; vu &c. &c. que tous les grands Seigneurs que j'ai eu l'honneur de connoitre dans l'Empire ont été très diſpoſés à ſaiſir toute occaſion (& celle-ci en ſera une) de marquer leur attachement, & leur amitié pour le Roi.

En vous reïtérant mes vœux à ce ſujet, j'ai l'honneur d'étre avec la plus haute eſtime, &c. &c.

(Signé) R. HEATHCOT.

A Monſieur, Monſieur le Colonel Erſkine.

EVIDENCE *given by* Captain Muller, *before the Committee of the* Houſe *of* Commons.

Queſtion. Was your Father Major of Departement of Mititia in the Canton of Bern, when you firſt knew Colonel Erſkine in Switzerland?

Anſwer. Yes.

Q. Was your Father turned out of his employment in conſequence of his aſſiſting to raiſe this regiment?

A. Yes.

Q. Was your Father baniſhed for ten years, and fined at four hundred and twenty-five Louis d'or?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you believe that in conſequence of that ſentence his creditors ſeized his eſtate, and that it was ſold for one third leſs that its value?

A. Yes.

N. B. Captain Muller then produced ſix letters from Colonel Erſkine to his Father, extracts of which follow this Evidence.

Queſtions put by Colonel Erſkine.

Q. What commiſſion had you in my regiment?

A. Captain.

Q. Do you know what pecuniary advantages your Father was to have had, if by his means the levy had been compleated?

A. *Fifteen hundred Louis d'or?*

Q. Has

Q. Has your Father had any means of ſupport ſince his eſtate was ſold?

A. No.

Q. Did not your Family ſend you over to me, that I might take charge of your education till I could ſend you over to the Eaſt-Indies?

A. Yes. And the Eaſt-India Company have agreed to ſend me out as a cadet.

Q. Are you ſatisfied that I have done every thing in my power to ſerve you and your family?

A. Yes.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT *of* LETTERS *between* Colonel Erſkine *and* Mr. Muller, *of Amſoldingen.*

Amſoldingen, ce 5ime 9bre, 1780.

" JE vous ſerai bein obligé de parler avec M. " G. à cauſe de moi—Je ſuis pret à exécuter tou- " jour les projets que je lui ai communiqué. " *Quant aû cheval je le reprendrai juſques á votre* " *retour*, ſi vous avez fait faire une ſelle neuve, & " bride joignés les avec, ils ne peuvent plus vous " ſervir. Je vous bonifierai le tout, la mienne " étant en mauvais état.

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amſoldingen."

A Monſieur Erſkine, Baſle.

Londres, 4ieme Janvier, 1781.

" J'AIE informé Milord Amherſt de vive voix " ſous le ſceau de la confidence tant de votre nom " que de vôs * *opportunités* & de votre capacité.

" Un de mes parents a promis de m'appuyer " efficacement devant Lord G. Germaine, & le " Secretaire de la guerre; un autre devant les " Secretaires d'Etat; peut etre cela reuſſira, peut " être pas mais je crois plus tot le premier——

" *car*

* His being Major of Department, and having taken great pains to ingratiate himſelf with the men he had the inſpection of.

" *car mes intérêts ſe trouvent mê ſes avec les vôtres &*
" vous pouvés compter que je prendrai autant de
" ſoin que poſſible de tous les deux.
(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE."

A Monſieur Muller, Amſoldingen.

Janvier 16ieme, 1781.

" Si mes ſouhaits ſont remplis vous pouves
" compter que votre fortune ſera faite, & vous ne
" ſeres pas faché *que la mienne ſe faſſe au meme*
" *temps.*
(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE."

A Monſieur Muller, d'Amſoldingen.

1er de Mars, 1781.

" Enfin je crois l'affaire décidée, c'eſt à Lord
" G. Germaine, à qui nous en avons l'obligation—
" J'eſpére que vous approuveres tous les pas que
" j'ai fait quand vous les entendres de ma bouche
" dans un mois, ou ſix ſemaines au plûs tard.
(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE.

A Monſieur Muller, d'Amſoldingen.

Colonel Erſkine has not been able to find copies of his letters to Mr. Muller, informing him there was little or no hopes of the propoſals being accepted —the originals are in the hands of Mr. Muller.

25ieme d'Avril, 1781.

" Cela n'a pas pris la tournure dont je m'etois " flatté, mais en tout cas, *cela mettra entre un ou* " *deux mille Louis dans votre poche.* Je n'oſe me " confier plus amplement par la poſte.

(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE."

A Monſieur Muller, d'Amſoldingen.

Ce 27ieme dAvril, 1781.

" J'ai le plaiſir de vous dire que *je viens de* " *régler & ſignier toute choſe* d'une maniére dont " j'eſpére que vous ſeres content quand j'aî " l'honneur de vous les dire de bouche, ce que " ſera dans très peu de tems.

(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE."

No Letters of any moment paſſed between Colonel Erſkine and Mr. Muller, till they met at Amſoldingen.

Bern, le 15ieme Aout, 1781.
Reçu le 30ieme.

" J'ai pris la reſolution de vous adreſſer celle-ci " par Monſieur Guermuſeus qui entrera dans la

 " companie

" compagnie de Fribourg ou dans celle de mon fils
" *comme vous voudres* etant de Basle. J'en ai
" promis une à Mr. le Capt.—de Schwitz, à un
" Mr.—de Zurich, *si vous le trouvez bon.* J'ai fait
" écire à—pour savoir si on pourra faire des re-
" crues à—Voila aussi sa reponse que oùi——
" *moyennant une patente.*

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amsoldingen."

A Monsieur Erskine, à la Couronne.

Bern, 17ieme 7bre, 1781.

" Aie la bouté de me dire mon cher ami ce
" que tu sais de Monsieur Erskine—où a t'il com-
" pleté *son Regiment?* & de quelle maniére sont
" ils partis pour Hanovre? Quels officiers avec.

(Signé) MULLER."

A Monsieur, Monsieur le Capt. Wieler,
à Louisbourg.

17ieme 7bre, 1781.

" L'on me taxe de vous avoir mis en tête de
" lever un regiment dans notre Canton"—" & l'on
" me soutient hautement que je n'etois rien, c'est
" pourquoi

" pourquoi au nom de Dieu mon cher, *faites moi* " *avoir mon brévet* auſſitot que poſſible.

(Signé) R. M."

P. S. Quand voulez vous que j'envoye Reidelet. *Monſieur Erſkine à Londres.*

Mr. Muller's next letter contained a great deal about Officers he pretended to have appointed; his debts, which he pretended Colonel Erſkine had promiſed to pay, which occaſioned the letter to be wrote, part of which is quoted in page 5 of Mr. Muller's Memorial: that letter produced the following reply:

Amſoldingen, 23ieme Novembre, 1781.

" *Monſieur, & trés cher Ami,*

" Conceves un peu, & mettes vous dans ma " ſituation, & vous me pardonneres d'etre déraiſonnable & de mauvaiſe humeur, mon attache- " ment, & amitié pour vous, ne changera cepan- " dant jamais;—notre ſentence va étre rendue le " 8ieme.—Je ne ſais à quel Saint me vouer—ſi je " quitte ma patrie en laiſſant tous ceux à qui *j'ai* " *promis les places*—& ſi je ne paye pas" (mes " dettes)—Quant à ma perſonne, je n'en ſuis pas " embarraſſé, vous ſavés que le Roi de Pruſſe m'a

" promis du pain. Mais j'ai des enfants qui me
" font ſaigner le cœur—la neceſſité m'obligerat
" de tirer ſur vous, tachés au nom de Dieu d'y faire
" honneur. *Vous ne m'avez jamais donné quelque*
" *choſe qui reſembloit a un Brevet*—comme vous
" me marqués dans votre lettre, s'il ſeroit poſſible
" d'en recervoir un de la part de la Cour, cela me
" fera bien plaiſir, & me *ſervira dans un autre*
" *ſervice.*

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amſoldingen."

Monſieur Monſieur Erſkine, à Londres.

Lozak, 15ieme Xieme, 1781.

" Me voila hors de ma Patrie, &c.—Je ſuis
" parti de chez moi avec deux Louis en poche,
" contant de pouvoir revenir le lendemain. Je
" me trouve ſans habits, argent, domeſtique, &
" tout, aides moi de vos conſeils, & ſecours, auſſi
" vite que vous pouvez, au nom de tout ce qu'il y a
" de plus ſaint.

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amſoldingen."

A Monſieur Erſkine, à Londres.

Addreſſes la Reponſe à Monſieur le Colonel Friſchman.

REPONSE *à la précedente.*

Londres, 26ieme Decembre, 1781.

" JE viens de recevoir l'honneur de votre lettre " du 15ieme passé, & ne puis dire combien je suis " Mortifié de tous les malheurs que vous me " marqués ; on m'en a aussi donné avis de Berne ; " soyez persuadé que si je puis adoucir le sort de " vous & de votre famille, je le ferai comme pour " moi-meme, ou la mienne propre ; j'espere que " quelque chose sera en mon pouvoir, dans deux " mois, ou troi au plus tard ; En attendant péu " s'en faut que je ne suis en aussi grande détresse " que vous même, ainsi il ne m'etoit point pos- " sible de faire plus que d'engager l'amitié de " Monsieur le Colonel Frischman de prendre soin " que vous ne manquiés de rien.--Vous pouvés etre " assuré que par amitié je ferai tout ce qui n'est " pas absolument impossible, pour rendre service " à vous & votre fils, mais les lettres que j'ai reçu " de Bern, me rendent necessaire de vous expliquer, " que ce sera par amitié, & bonne volonté seule- " ment que j'agirai, sans me croire aucunement " sous obligation de faire un seul pas.

(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE."

A Monsieur Muller, d'Amsoldingen.

P. S. " JE viens de recevoir avis que vous avéz " fait de plaintes amères contre moi à nos Ministres

" par

" par le canal de Monſieur Norton, tout ce que
" je reſents à cette occaſion, c'eſt le déſeſpoir d'etre
" aſſuré que vos malheur vous ont fait tourner la
" tête."

Lozak prés de Baſle, 23e Xbre, 1781.

" J s'agit de nulle Louis *& Dieu ſait que je vous*
" *les rendrai avec*—aprês cette maudite hiſtoire—
" Je vous conjure donc mon cher Monſieur de
" ne point m'abandonner, ecrives, ſi vous aimes
" votre ami Muller, & ſa famille, ſans perdre de
" tems, a Mr. Braun, & aux Banquiers Mareuard,
" & Buther, pour leur dire que vous alles payer,
" j'attends cela de votre facon de penſer qui m'eſt
" bien connue.

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amſoldingen."

Monſieur Erſkine, à Londres.

Lozak prés de Baſle, 29e Xbre, 1781.

" L'on vous a ſurément mal informé que je
" vous ai d'échiré à tous ceux qui vouloient l'en-
" tendre. " Ce n'eſt point la mon caractére."
" Je vous aime, & eſtime plus qu'aucun autre.

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amſoldingen,"

A Monſiur Erſkine, Londres. Major.

P. S. Vous ſouvient il que vous me promites
" *un Brevet de Colonel à la ſuite de l'armée*, cela me
" fera bien plaiſir.

" Vous aurés ſans doute appris ma Sentence, " je ne ferai que la confirmer. Que dois-je mon " cher vous dire la deſſus? Que de vous réitérer " au nom de Dieu de me tirer de l'embarras, ce " n'eſt point pour moi, mais pour les pauvres miens; " je n'ai point beſoin de vous faire un tableau " piquant du tout, mon cher, vous avez de l'ame, " & un ame ſenſible, elle me promet du ſecours, " la promptitude y fera un ſecond merite. Croyes " moi toujours de cœur, & d'ame, tout à vous.

(Signé) MULLER."

A Monſieur Erſkine, Londres.

REPONSE *aux precedentes.*

A Londres, ce 18me Fevrier, 1782.

" J'AI bien reçu votre lettre ſans date. Je " vous réitére que je ferai autant *pour votre famille* " que ſi elle etoit la mienne propre, mais pour " vous aſſurer du ſuccés de mes tentatives c'eſt plus " que je ne puis faire, car cela ne dépend pas de " moi.

" CE que vous m'ecrivés au ſujet de mes lettres, " et promeſſes, n'eſt pas abſolument éxact, mais " je ne vois la dedans rien qui aura pu vous faire " croire que je vous avois manqué—Etoit ce ma

" faute

" faute que l'Empereur, les Cantons de Zuricli,
" & de Berne, & le Duc de Wirtemberg, ſe ſont
" ſaiſis *de mon Régiment?* Mais nous ne parlerons
" plus d'un ſujet que m'atriſte.

" J'ai reçu avis de mes amis à Berne, que la
" Chambre des Recrues vient de recevoir une lettre
" de vous *datée de Bruxelles*, leur diſant— *Que vous*
" *venies de Londres, qu'on avoit donné vôtre regiment*
" *à un autre, que vous leur pries de vous envoyer copie*
" *de mes lettres à vous, &c. &c. &c.* Qu'eſt-ce que
" veut dire tout ce Galimatias, ſi je ne voyois
" clairement que vos malheurs vous ont pour le
" moment dérangé la téte; je vous prierois de re-
" concilier cela avec les lettres que vous m'ecriviés
" au même moment—reconnoiſſez vous, vous
" mème à ce trait? Mandés moi le Monſieur
" Anglois à qui vous avez envoyé mes lettres, &
" je vous le ferai avoir, & ſans reproche.

(Signé) J. F. ERSKINE."

A Monſieur Muller, d'Amſoldingen.

REPLIQE *de* MONSIEUR MULLER *à la précédente.*

Rheinfelden, 27me Fevrier, 1781.

" C'etoit le 17ieme du paſſé que ſut dattée
" ma derniére lettre; Vous vous echauffés de me

" faire

" faire montrer par Mr. d'Armine, ou Merian,
" que je viens encore de faire une plus grande
" faute d'avoir demandé à la Chambre des Recrues
" —& cela daté de Bruxelles—tout cela eſt j'eſ-
" pére dans l'ordre, je vous donne ma parolle
" que nulle mauvaiſe intention vis-a-vis de vous,
" n'a été, et ne ſera jamais la cauſe ; Vous con-
" noiſſes, mon cher, & bon ami, bien peu mon car-
" actére, ſi vous croyez que je ſuis capable en vous
" écrivant ceci de faire un coup formé dans le
" même tems contre vous——Soyez ſur que
" dans quel pays, que je me trouverai (peut
" être prés de vous) je ne dirai de vous que ce
" qu'un honnête homme doit dire, en attendant
" je ſuis, & ſerai de ma vie avec l'attachement le
" plus ſincére, &c. &c.

(Signé) MULLER."

A Monſieur Erſkine, Londres.

COLONEL ERSKINE received many letters from Mr. Muller, before he went away from Rheinfelden, and he is not quite ſure whether he anſwered them or not, but thinks not, as he was very angry with him. Regard for the gentlemen who acquainted him of the cauſe of Mr. Muller's flight from thence, prevents his printing their letters.

Some months afterwards Colonel Erſkine learnt Mr. Muller had thrown himſelf at the feet of the Duke of Glouceſter, and had dared to tell his Royal Highneſs moſt of the ſame falſehoods as he has now publiſhed. It did not prevent Colonel Erſkine from getting employment for his ſon, from whom he received the following letter:

Bern, 26eme 8bre, 1781.

" Avec quelle joye n'ai je pas reçu Monſieur " la nouvelle que j'etois agréé comme Cadet de " la Companie des Indes. Je ne puis certaine- " ment aſſes être reconnoiſſant du ſervice im- " portant que vous vénes de me rendre, & a toute " notre famille; je ſuis réſolu de partir avec " Monſieur Curtat, & tous mes parents l'ont déja " permis.

(Signé) ROD. MULLER.

A Monſieur Erſkine, à Londres.

Bern, 15ieme Janvier, 1783.

" Permettés moi Monſieur de vous remercier " pour toutes les bontés que vous avez pour Roide- " let; il m'a paru par votre lettre que vous l'avez

" trouvé

" trouvé bien grandi, car vous l'appellés Monſ.
" mon fils. Mais je vous prie Monſieur de le
" regarder toujours comme Roidelet que vous
" avez tant aimé étant plus jeune. Non jamais
" je ne ſaurai aſſés reconnoitre les bontés & bien-
" faits que vous avez pour nous, &c.

(Signé) MARIA MULLER née WILD."

Monſieur Erſkine, Londres.

Falmouth, ce 21eme Septembre, 1781.

" J'ai trés bien reçu hier la lettre pour Mr.
" Haſtings, que vous avez eu la bonté, de m'en-
" voyer, & vous ne ſauriez croire mon cher
" Monſieur, combien je ſuis reconnoiſſant de
" toutes les bontés que vous avez pour moi, &
" de l'amour, & de la tendreſſe plus que pater-
" nelle que vous m'avez montré en toute occaſion.
" Je ne puis trouver des termes aſſes forts pour
" vous témoigner, toute la reconnoiſſance que
" mon cœur ſent dans cette circonſtance, pour
" les ſoins que vous avez bien voulu prendre de
" moi, & de ma fortune, auſſi bien que de celle
" de ma malheureuſe famille, &c.

(Signé) FRED. ROD. MULLER."

Monſieur le Colonel Erſkine, Londres.

At the Cape of Good Hope, Dec. 20th, 1783.

" SUIVANT vos ordres mon cher Monſieur, je
" n'ai ouvert la lettre que vous m'avez remiſe
" qu'aprés avoir perdu de vue les côtes de l'An-
" gleterre, il eſt inutile de vouloir chercher, des
" expreſſions pour pouvoir exprimer toute la re-
" connoiſſance que mon cœur vous doit pour
" l'amitié *plus que paternelle* que vous me portes.
(Signed FRED. ROD. MULLER."

To Colonel Erſkine, at London.

Bern, 19eme Juin, 1784.

" HIER vint chez moi Mr. —— mon ami à
" qui on a communiqué vos lettres à Madame
" Muller, & il ma prié de vous dire que le
" ſeul moyen d'empécher Madame Muller, qu'lle
" ne ſacrifie la plus grande partie de l'argent
" que ſon fils lui céde à ſon Mary, ce ſera
" de faire parvenir le montant à ſon Tuteur où
" à moi, pour le lui remettre, & il le placera
" de ſuite de maniére que Muller ne pourra y
" toucher, car il n'y a pas de doute que ſi elle eſt
" maitreſſe, elle donnera tout à ſon Mary, & ſes
" filles n'auront rien.

A Monſieur Erſkine, Londres.

COPIES

COPIES *of a Note of Hand, and Acknowledgment.*

London, April 28th, 1781.

THREE months after date, we promiſe, jointly and ſeparately, to pay to Mr. Micheal Parys, or order, the ſum of ſeventy-four pounds ſterling, value received.

(Signed) J. F. ERSKINE,
S. MEDOWS.

Suffolk-Street, Auguſt 1ſt, 1783.

I DO hereby acknowledge that the joint promiſſory note of Sir Sidney Medows and Mr. Erſkine, of ſeventy-four pounds, was given me in payment of the account of Mr. Muller, of Amſoldingen, in the Canton of Berne, and was paid by Mr. Erſkine, the day after it was due; as well as an after account of that Gentleman's, for two pounds ſix ſhillings and nine-pence.

(Signed) M. PARYS.

EXTRACT *of a Letter from* MR. MULLER *to* COLONEL ERSKINE, *on his return to* SWITZERLAND.

Soleure, Mai 7eme, 1783.

" J'aurais dû commencer celle-ci par vous " remercier Monſieur de tout ce que vous avez " fait

" fait pour moi; pardonnes le, je n'en conſerverai
" pas moins une gratitude pleiniére &c. tout à
" vous de cœur & d'ame.

(Signé) R. M."

A Monſieur Erſkine, à Londres.

Baſil, 2d June, 1783.

" Your letter of exchange I had preſented at
" the laſt Fair at Zurzak, to the Jew, who poſi-
" tively refuſed paying it; declaring, that he not
" only had no knowledge of ſuch bill, but that he
" owed not one farthing to the man who had
" drawn the bill, &c.

To Colonel Erſkine, London.

Baſil, July 10th, 1783.

" I have already informed you that the Jew
" refuſed paying the bill, and it was returned,
" with proteſt.——The man who drew the bill
" equally refuſed to pay it; on my requeſt, he
" was ordered to appear before the Bailiff of
" Traxelwald, before whom he declared, on oath,
" that he did not ſign the ſaid bill, and did owe
" nothing to Colonel Muller, from whom he
" produced a letter, certifying that he had received
" nothing on account of that bill, &c."

To Colonel Erſkine, London.

TRANSLATION

TRANSLATION *of* MR. MULLER'S *Letter, alluded to in the preceding.*

Saleure, June 27th, 1783.

I DO hereby certify I have received nothing on account of the bill of one hundred and eight louis d'or and forty-six batzen, drawn by Peter Fluckiger, at Hutweil, in my favor, on the Jew Wolfe, and which, by Mr. Erſkine, has been ſent to Baſil.

(Signé) MULLER, d'Amſoldingen, Colonel.

FINIS.

15
72
NOV